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Attorney Docket No. 27476-504

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Bradley *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/839,658 EXAMINER: Teresa E. Strzelecka
FILING DATE: April 19, 2001 ART UNIT: 1637
FOR: NOVEL COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR ARRAY-BASED NUCLEIC ACID
HYBRIDIZATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114

This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Enclosed herein are the following:

1. Amendment and Response to January 22, 2004 Final Office Action (8 pages);
2. Check No. 18188 in the amount of \$385.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) to cover fee for filing an Request for Continuing Examination; and
3. Return Postcard.

Pursuant to 35 USC § 1.114, Applicants herein request continued examination of Application No. 09/839,658. Included with this request are the required elements of 1) a request; 2) a submission; and 3) a fee. The submission provided herein is a response to a final Office Action mailed January 22, 2004. With such a timely filed request, submission, and fee, Applicants believe that the amendments should be entered and considered.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 27476-504.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: March 10, 2004

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO JANUARY 22, 2004 FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This paper is in response to a final Office Action mailed January 22, 2004. Applicants in response to this Office Action previously submitted an Informal Communication to the Examiner on February 19, 2004. The Examiner stated that the proposed amendment would require a new search. Accordingly, applicants file herein a Request for Continued Examination, with the requisite submission being an amendment and response, filed herewith.

This response is timely filed on or before April 22, 2004. Applicants do not believe that any fees are due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 27476-504.

Amendments to the claims are shown in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.